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SAND CREEK MASSACRE BILL GAINS SENATE APPROVAL

Allard gratified by swift Senate approval

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) said today that legislation to create the Sand Creek Massacre site in southeastern Colorado near Eads was unanimously approved by the U.S. Senate on Tuesday. The bill now heads to President Bush for his signature.

The bill designates the 2,400 acres as a national historic site, which will be managed by the National Park Service in partnership with the Northern and Southern Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

"This has been a long time coming, and I am pleased the Senate moved so swiftly to approve this legislation. This historic site will provide a unique view of Colorado history and, just as important, commemorate the Native American tribal members who were killed in a dispute with the U.S. Army at the site in 1864," Senator Allard said.

Identical legislation introduced by Colorado 4th District U.S. Representative Marilyn Musgrave, was approved by the House of Representatives earlier this year.

"This legislation will benefit all of Colorado, and safeguard a site that is not only historic but also sacred to the descendants of the individuals who were killed there," Senator Allard said.

Similar legislation introduced by former Colorado U.S. Senator Ben Campbell and Senator Allard was approved by the Senate last year, but failed to gain final approval in the House before the session ended.